

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.       A computer-implemented method of constructing a portfolio having a  
2 utility defined by at least a first function and a second function, the computer-implemented  
3 method comprising:  
4                   selecting a plurality of assets in the portfolio; and  
5                   maximizing an expected utility of the portfolio; wherein the at least first  
6 function is a power-utility function having a first power defining the degree of risk aversion  
7 of a holder of the portfolio and wherein the at least second function is a power-utility function  
8 having a second power defining the degree of risk aversion of the holder of the portfolio,  
9 wherein the first power is different from the second power.

1                   2.       The method of Claim 1 wherein the at least first power-utility function  
2 defines the utility of the portfolio for positive rates of returns and wherein the at least second  
3 power-utility function defines the utility of the portfolio for negative rates of returns.

1                   3.       The method of Claim 1 wherein the at least first power-utility function  
2 is a log-utility function.

1                   4.       The method of Claim 2 wherein the at least first power-utility function  
2 is a log-utility function.

1                   5.       The method of Claim 4 wherein the act of maximizing the expected  
2 utility of the portfolio further comprises the act of selecting a weight for each asset in the  
3 portfolio.

1                   6.       The method of Claim 5 wherein the act of selecting a weight for each  
2 asset in the portfolio further comprises:  
3                   assigning a probability point to the occurrence of each one of a plurality of  
4 economic events;  
5                   computing the utility of the portfolio for each economic event;  
6                   multiplying the utility of portfolio computed for each economic event with the  
7 probability of the occurrence of that economic event thereby generating a plurality of values;  
8 and  
9                   summing the values.

1                   7.       The method of Claim 6 wherein the act of assigning a probability point  
2 to the occurrence of each one of the plurality of economic events comprises assigning a  
3 probability point to the occurrence of each one of the plurality of economic events based on  
4 past economic data.

1                   8.       A computer system for constructing a portfolio having a utility defined  
2 by at least a first function and a second function, the computer system comprising:  
3                   a processor; and  
4                   a memory coupled to the processor, said memory storing a plurality of code  
5 modules for execution by the processor, the plurality of code modules comprising:  
6                   a code module for selecting a plurality of assets in the portfolio; and  
7                   a code module for maximizing an expected utility of the portfolio; wherein the  
8 at least first function is a power-utility function having a first power defining the degree of  
9 risk aversion of a holder of the portfolio and wherein the at least second function is a power-  
10 utility function having a second power defining the degree of risk aversion of the holder of  
11 the portfolio, wherein the first power is different from the second power.

1                   9.       The computer system of Claim 8, wherein the code module for  
2 maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function  
3 defining positive rates of returns and wherein the code module for maximizing the expected  
4 utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least second function defining negative rates  
5 of returns.

1                   10.      The computer system of Claim 8, wherein the code module for  
2 maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function  
3 that is a log-utility function.

1                   11.      The computer system of Claim 9, wherein the code module for  
2 maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function  
3 that is a log-utility function.

1                   12.      The computer system of Claim 11 wherein the code module for  
2 maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio further comprises a code module for  
3 selecting a weight for each one of the plurality of assets in the portfolio.

13. The computer system of Claim 12, wherein the code module for selecting a weight for each one of the plurality of assets in the portfolio further comprises:  
code module for assigning a probability point to the occurrence of each one of a plurality of economic events;  
code module for computing the utility of the portfolio for each one of the plurality of economic events; and  
code module for multiplying the utility of the portfolio computed for each one of the plurality of economic events with the probability of the occurrence of that economic event thereby generating a plurality of values; and  
code module for summing the values.

14. A computer program for constructing a portfolio having a utility defined by at least a first function and a second function, the computer program being executable by a processor and comprising:  
a code module for selecting a plurality of assets in the portfolio; and  
a code module for maximizing an expected utility of the portfolio; wherein the at least first function is a power-utility function having a first power defining the degree of risk aversion of a holder of the portfolio and wherein the at least second function is a power-utility function having a second power defining the degree of risk aversion of the holder of the portfolio, wherein the first power is different from the second power.

15. The computer program of Claim 14, wherein the code module for maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function defining positive rates of returns and wherein the code module for maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least second function defining negative rates of returns.

16. The computer program of Claim 14, wherein the code module for maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function that is a log-utility function.

17. The computer program of Claim 15, wherein the code module for maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function that is a log-utility function.

1                   18.     The computer system of Claim 17 wherein the code module for  
2 maximizing the expected utility of the portfolio further comprises a code module for selecting  
3 a weight for each one of the plurality of assets in the portfolio.

1                   19.     The computer system of Claim 18, wherein the code module for  
2 selecting a weight for each one of the plurality of assets in the portfolio further comprises:  
3                   code module for assigning a probability point to the occurrence of each one of  
4 a plurality of economic events;  
5                   code module for computing the utility of the portfolio for each one of a  
6 plurality of economic events; and  
7                   code module for multiplying the utility of the portfolio computed for each one  
8 of the plurality of economic events with the probability of the occurrence of that economic  
9 event thereby generating a plurality of values; and  
10                  code module for summing the values.

1                   20.     A networked system for constructing a portfolio having a utility  
2 defined by at least a first function and a second function, the networked system comprising:  
3                   a communication network;  
4                   a computer system coupled to the communication network;  
5                   a database coupled to the communication network;  
6 wherein the computer system is configured to:  
7                   select a plurality of assets in the portfolio; and  
8                   maximize an expected utility of the portfolio; wherein the at least first  
9 function is a power-utility function having a first power defining the degree of risk aversion  
10 of a holder of the portfolio and wherein the at least second function is a power-utility function  
11 having a second power defining the degree of risk aversion of the holder of the portfolio,  
12 wherein the first power is different from the second power.

1                   21.     The networked system of Claim 20 , wherein the at least first function  
2 defines positive rates of returns of the portfolio and wherein the at least second function  
3 defines negative rates of returns of the portfolio.

1                   22.     The networked system of Claim 20, wherein the at least first function  
2 is a log-utility function.

1                   23.     The networked system of Claim 21, wherein the at least first function  
2 is a log-utility function.

1                   24.     The networked system of Claim 23, wherein the networked system is  
2 further configured to select a weight for each asset in the portfolio.

1                   25.     The networked system of Claim 23, wherein the computer system is  
2 further configured to:

3                   assign a probability point to the occurrence of each one of a plurality of  
4 economic events;

5                   compute the utility of the portfolio for each one of the plurality of economic  
6 events;

7                   multiply the utility of portfolio computed for each economic event with the  
8 probability of the occurrence of that economic event thereby generating a plurality of values;  
9 and

10                  sum the values.

1                   26.     A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for  
2 constructing a portfolio having a utility defined by at least a first function and a second  
3 function, the computer program comprising:

4                   code for selecting a plurality of assets in the portfolio; and

5                   code for maximizing an expected utility of the portfolio; wherein the at least  
6 first function is a power-utility function having a first power defining the degree of risk  
7 aversion of a holder of the portfolio and wherein the at least second function is a power-  
8 utility function having a second power defining the degree of risk aversion of the holder of  
9 the portfolio, wherein the first power is different from the second power.

1                   27.     The computer program of Claim 26, wherein the code for maximizing  
2 the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function defining  
3 positive rates of returns and wherein the code for maximizing the expected utility of the  
4 portfolio comprises code for the at least second function defining negative rates of returns.

1                   28.     The computer system of Claim 26, wherein the code for maximizing  
2     the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function that is a log-  
3     utility function.

1                   29.     The computer system of Claim 27, wherein the code for maximizing  
2     the expected utility of the portfolio comprises code for the at least first function that is a log-  
3     utility function.

1                   30.     The computer program of Claim 29 wherein the code for maximizing  
2     the expected utility of the portfolio further comprises code for selecting a weight for each  
3     asset in the portfolio.

1                   31.     The computer program of Claim 30, wherein the code for selecting a  
2     weight for each asset in the portfolio further comprises:

3                   code for assigning a probability point to the occurrence of each one of a  
4     plurality of economic events;

5                   code for computing the utility of the portfolio for each one of the plurality of  
6     economic events;

7                   code for multiplying the utility of portfolio computed for each economic  
8     event with the probability of the occurrence of that economic event thereby generating a  
9     plurality of values; and

10                  code for summing the values.